

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

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THE BLOWN FUSE

CLUB STATION W6CUS

VOLUME LX NUMBER 4

APRIL 2007



EBARC Meeting

April 13, 2007
7:30 p.m.

"Propagation Prediction Software"
Jack Burris, K6JEB
Ron Smith, KE6RS



The East Bay Amateur Radio Club meets the second Friday of each month
at the Salvation Army, 4600 Appian Way, El Sobrante.

The Executive Board meets the Monday before each general meeting at 7:30 p.m.
at 6527 Arlington Blvd., Richmond. For directions call 415-305-2547.

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THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
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The Blown Fuse is published monthly by the East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and is free to its members. *The Blown Fuse* welcomes articles of interest to its members and amateur radio in general. *The Blown Fuse* reserves the right to edit or reject any material submitted. Material submitted becomes the property of *The Blown Fuse*. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce material printed herein provided proper acknowledgment is given. Editor: Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ

Deadline for May issue: Tuesday, Apr. 24th

[Articles may be submitted by "snail" mail, by dictation over the 'phone 510-741-8227, or by e-mail to aa6xz@earthlink.net]

President's Sidetone

Jack Burris, K6JEB

I grew up in the heart of the Minnesota prairie. As kids, we were always playing in the woods and the fields. More than once I can remember finding arrowheads, old rusty belt buckles, and shards of pottery from who knows when. The fact that someone had trod these same trails and woods fascinated me, and I developed an early interest in what history, and sense of place, really means.

And so it is with the East Bay Amateur Radio Club, founded over 50 years ago: How many others have been members in this organization? What became of them? What did they discover? What did they do for a laugh? How did the club station come about? Did we help out during any emergencies? Were any members involved in DXpeditions? Authors? Inventors? Notable Scholars? Recognized Humanitarians? A Great Father or Mother? A devoted community member? Where were we as a club when innovation showed up? How did the club face changes? What kept us together when things weren't going smoothly? We, as a club, have a lot to be proud of from what I've heard so far. I urge you all to fill-in the rest of us "newbies" about

EBARC history. What do you remember of it? Got something fun or funny to share? Feel free to send me an email with your anecdotes!

How about helping out with the Grizzly Peak Bike Ride this year? Several local hams have been showing the surrounding community what our hobby is about by putting together a very professional communications team for the Grizzly Peak Bike Ride. It's a day of driving around, checking-in with net control, running tires out to stranded cyclists, and helping provide communications in places where a cell phone just doesn't work. If you're interested, get in touch with Rich, KD6JCT for the details.

Some of you may remember that EBARC used to have a net on 10m. IT LIVES! Here's another plug for the net, and this time we've got a name for it: "Explore Net" meets Mondays at 7:30pm (local) at 28.425MHz. Dust off your HF rig, get that dipole back up, and come join the fun! I'm taking the opportunity to try out portable and mobile antennas so I can check in "pedestrian mobile" or "HFpack" when the weather gets better. Let's explore the unique propagation characteristics of 10m as we go into the next sunspot cycle.

Like the weather, propagation displays vicissitudes as well. In March, Kristen, K6WX, gave an excellent presentation on the basic building blocks of propagation and how these relate to amateur radio. We're hoping we can get Kristen in for Part 2 of her discussion.

This next meeting Ron, KE6RS, and I will be tag-teaming the propagation software presentation. Like building a "sense of place," propagation prediction draws on what we know from past observations and the mechanisms governing them, and extrapolating that data into the present, and even the future. This sounds more scary than it is, and at the meeting we'll show you "How I stopped worrying about the K Index and Started Working DX."

April Program **Ron Smith, KE6RS**

The April 13th program will be "Propagation Prediction Software" and will be presented by Jack, K6JEB, and Ron, KE6RS. Jack and Ron will show and describe two different software packages that can help determine which bands are open to where and at what time of day.

Treasurer's Report **February, 2007** **Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer**

FEBRUARY INCOME

Regular Renewals; KI6EGZ, KB6WC,
WA6QJT, N6AVB, KG6WPQ, AB6VB,
NJ6T, WB6VEX\$200.00
Family Membership; KC6OBK/K6KOP,
N6MNL/KD6OKJ,
KE6SZG/KE6MSF 90.00
Coffee Kitty 6.11
Mailbox reimbursement (WB6VEX) ... 58.00
Crab Feed Receipts (as of 1/12/07) .800.00
Total Feb. Income..... \$1,154.11

FEBRUARY DISBURSEMENTS

Salvation Army (crab feed room
rental)\$50.00
AT&T (W6CUS phone) 19.99
Total Feb. Disbursements\$69.99

BANK OF THE WEST ACCOUNTS

Checking (General Fund).....\$4,115.06
Savings (Station Fund*) \$2,827.20

*\$560 earmarked for W6CUS Roofing Fund.

The reported income receipts for the crab feed as of Jan. 12th was incorrect. Instead, of \$630, it should have been \$600. The \$30 deducted was meant for membership dues.

Many thanks to Michael McMillan, K6MCM, for preafrooding this month's *Blown Fuse*.

Treasurer's Report

March, 2007 **Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer**

MARCH INCOME

Regular Renewals; W8JSN, KE6DYR,
KD6WNM, W6WTU, N6JGC,\$125.00
Family Membership; W6THD/W6THB,
AC5QI/AC5RB60.00
Crab Feed Receipts (KE6MSF).....646.00
Crab Feed Receipts (KF6HEN)30.00
Crab Feed Refund (F. Nieman)217.00
Donation (KI6EMD)20.00
Coffee Kitty.....20.89
Crab Feed loose change0.75
Total Mar. Income.....\$1,119.64

MARCH DISBURSEMENTS

Blown Fuse Printing (Feb.)\$19.49
Blown Fuse Postage (Feb.)16.77
Membership Reminder Postcards4.80
Blown Fuse Printing (Mar.)29.57
Blown Fuse Postage (Mar.).....26.52
EBARC P.O. Box Rental (T. Hoffman)62.00
AT&T (W6CUS phone, Feb.).....18.48
AT&T (W6CUS phone, Mar.).....18.48
Crab Feed Expenses (KE6MSF)72.73
Total Mar. Disbursements.....\$268.84

BANK OF THE WEST ACCOUNTS

Checking (General Fund).....\$4,981.93
Savings (Station Fund*)\$2,811.49

*\$560 earmarked for W6CUS Roofing Fund.

Crab Feed Accounting: Total expenses
\$1,072.73, Total donations \$1,693.75, Net
income \$621.02

Crab Feed Wrap-Up **Burgie Jones, KE6MSF**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank some fellow hams for the outstanding job they performed during the Crab Feed.

A special thank you goes out to: Fred, KC6VLL; Audrey, KF6MVH; Barbara, KD6OKJ; Cheryl, KF6HEN; Randy, KA6BQF; Stanton, KD6SWU; Joe, W6DOB; Texx, KG6ATH; Ron, KE6RS; & Roger, KE6SZG. I really hope I did not miss anyone.

You all did an excellent job helping with the purchasing of the food, the cooking, the serving, greeting the guests at the front door, the raffle prizes and the clean up. I believe we all had a good time and it was a great turn out.

A special thank you to all of you who worked so hard selling crab feed tickets.

We made a profit of \$621.02. I thank you all very much from the bottom of my heart for your help. I look forward to next year's Crab Feed.

General Meeting Minutes

March 9, 2007

"Burgie" Jones, KE6MSF, Secretary

The meeting was called to order by our President, Jack, K6JEB at 7:30 p.m. The minutes of the February General Meeting were accepted as printed in *The Blown Fuse*.

Ron, KE6RS, has several programs already lined up for our future meetings.

Randy, KA6BQF, reminds us that the FCC eliminated the CW requirement in February. There are several public service events coming up. One of them is the Grizzly Peak Bike Ride on May 6th. If you are interested in helping, please contact Randy or Rich Parker.

Sharon, AA6XZ, says if you have looked at the roster and anything is wrong pertaining to your personal info., please let Sharon know. She will correct the error.

John Wood, N6JDW, Education Chair, reports that we are having a Technician Class starting in April. If you or anyone you know is interested, please contact John. He will give

you the specifics. John and associates are considering an Extra Class which will be held in Alameda. If anyone would be interested, please let John know also.

Peter, W6DEI, has reserved our spot at the Berkeley marina for Field Day. Also, please take a look at our web site. Peter has put a lot of time and work into it. He has done an excellent job. There are links to other sites also. The Red Oak Victory site is one of these links. One of these upcoming events is the Museum Ships Amateur Radio Event. If anyone is interested in seeing this event, please see www.qsl.net/redoak.arc/events.

Gordy, NU6W, reports: CK: \$4,115.06: SV: \$2,827.20. If anyone is interested in the bylaws, Gordy says he has a copy of them.

The ramp at the club station has been replaced. We are putting together a Maintenance Team for the club station. If anyone would be interested in being part of the Maintenance Team, please contact our President Jack, K6JEB.

No new business. The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Technician Class Begins in April **Education Chair, John Wood, N6JDW**

Well, it's spring again, so we are holding another Technician Class radio class. The three clubs, EBARC, Oakland Radio Communications Association (ORCA), and Amateur Radio Club of Alameda (ARCA) are hosting it. It will be held, as usual, at the Alvarado School under the auspices of the West Contra Costa Adult Education department of West Contra Costa Unified School District. (For directions see the map: http://www.wccae.info/alvarado_directions.htm)

The class meets each Wednesday, starting April 18th, from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. for eight weeks. A VE test session will be held during the final class period. The text will be the new release: The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual, 1st Edition. The text is available from ARRL, HRO, or at the first class period.

The class is free, but registration is required, and can be done during the first class period. The Text costs \$25 and the VE test costs \$14.

Remember, with this license and the new FCC rules comes voice privileges on 10 Meters.

Call John Wood, N6JDW, at 510-741-7050 evenings for more information.

EBARC Web Site Update Peter Hoffman, W6DEI

A PDF version of the EBARC Constitution and Bylaws has been posted on the EBARC web site, www.eastbayarc.org. There's a link to them on the home page (about half-way down the page at the end of paragraph describing the club activities).

Grizzly Peak Century Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF

The Grizzly Peak Century, our one major event of the year is coming up on Sunday, May 6. Rich Parker, KD6JCT, is recruiting volunteers for this year's event. We need operators to man the various aid stations, and sag drivers to patrol the route. Shifts are available throughout the day. If you've done this before, you know how much fun it can be. If you haven't done so, you might want to give it a try. Contact Rich at kd6jct@yahoo.com or 510-237-2777. Come on out and volunteer.

Edward Arnold, K6AGD, was born June 24, 1924. He became a silent key Feb 16, 2007 in Butte Falls, Oregon. He served in the Army in Hawaii during WWII as a Tech 4th grade.

Ed was president of EBARC in the mid-1980s. He retired from Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory. He was an avid high speed CW traffic handler on the Northern Calif. Net /1, Region Six/ net, Oregon ARES traffic net, the Beaver State Net, and the Region Seven Oregon CW traffic net.

Future Bay Area Events

- Livermore Swap Meet, 1st Sunday of each month at Robertson Park, 7 a.m. to noon, all year. Talk-in 147.045 MHz. Info: Robert 925-560-5646 (h). More info at www.livermoreark.org/swap/swap.html
- South Bay Electronics Flea Market, 2nd Saturday of each month, March through October, De Anza College, Cupertino. Details at www.asvaro.org. Talk-in on 145.27 MHz (-, 100 Hz PL).
- EBARC, ORCA, and ARCA sponsor joint ARRL VEC Amateur Radio Test Sessions quarterly at 9 a.m. The remaining sessions for 2007 will be Sundays Apr. 22nd, Jul. 22nd, and Oct. 28th. Exams are held in the 2nd floor conference room of the Kaiser Building, 1950 Franklin, Oakland (1 block from the 19th St. BART station). The 2007 fee (and retest fee) remains at \$14. For info call 510-846-1587 or 510-741-8227.
- CoCoCo RACES Training: Details, RACES net, 6:45 p.m., Thursdays on 145.11 MHz.

[The list of officers and nets is being omitted from the printed Blown Fuse this month to save money. It will return next month. – Editor]

Silent Key, Ed Arnold, K6AGD

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club, founded in 1947, is a California non-profit organization of amateur radio operators in Contra Costa and Alameda counties. The club is open to anyone interested in amateur radio. Annual dues are \$25 for individual membership, \$30 for a family membership, and \$10 for students K-12. For information, call (510) 233-7509, contact any EBARC officer, see Web page www.eastbayarc.org, or write EBARC, P.O. Box 1393, El Cerrito, CA 94530. The East Bay Amateur Radio Club maintains a club station, W6CUS, at 3200 Macdonald Ave., Richmond. The packet station, W6CUS-1, is on 145.630 Mhz, and is linked to the EAST BAY LAN (EBAY) on 223.720 Mhz.

2007 EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB EXECUTIVE BOARD

Jack Burris, K6JEB, President	415-305-2547
Ron Smith, KE6RS, 1 st VP - Program Chair.....	724-5099
Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, 2 nd VP – Hospitality Chair	526-4089
Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ, 3 rd VP - Membership / <i>Blown Fuse</i> Editor.....	741-8227
Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer / Finance Committee Chair.....	785-4290
Gayle “Burgie” Jones, KE6MSF, Secretary	964-1476
Ralph Hall, W6EFD, W6CUS Trustee / SysOp	232-0727
Stanton Gleason, KD6SWU, Club Station Manager, Member-at-Large ..	385-4044
John Wood, N6JDW, Education Chair, Member-at-Large.....	741-7050
Peter Hoffman, W6DEI, Web Site Designer, Member-at-Large	525-0694
Bob Bowling, K6ZLG, Member-at-Large	233-5749
Social & Digital Committees Chair.....	
Awards Chair & Silent Key Chair.....	
Legislative Affairs	
RFI Committee Chair.....	
Historian	
Publicity Chair	

AMATEUR RADIO NETS

NET	DAYS	LOCAL TIME	FREQ, MHZ
West Contra Costa County ARES/RACES Net	Thurs	1845 (PL 82.5-)	145.110
EBARC “Explore Net” (HF)	Mon	1930 (USB)	28.475
KARO/ECHO ARES/RACES Net	Thurs	~1900 simplex	146.415
NALCO RACES/ARES Net	Thurs	1915 (PL 131.8+)	440.900
Oakland ARES Emergency Communications Net	Thurs	1930 (PL 77-)	146.880
Contra Costa Communications Club Net	Thurs	1930 (PL 82.5-)	145.110
Tech Net	Thurs	2000 (PL 82.5-)	145.110
"Over the Hill Gang" Breakfast/Commute Net	Mo-Fr	0710 (PL 82.5-)	145.110
Northern Calif. Net VHF Session	Daily	1930 (PL 107.2-)	145.410
"Going Home Group"	Mo-Fr	1600 (PL 82.5-)	145.110

Asst. EC West CoCoCo: Steve Adams, KF6WNH, sadams0584@aol.com; home: 510-236-9770
work: 510-893-7900 x 270; pager 510-765-4618. Frequencies: #1=145.110-, #2=147.570s.